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HANDLING I/O REQUESTS UTILIZING SEPARATE PROGRAMMING  
INTERFACES TO ACCESS SEPARATE I/O SERVICES~~ma~~

IN THE CLAIMS

3. (Amended) The computer system defined in Claim 1 wherein the operating system comprises a plurality of servers, and each of the first plurality programming interfaces transfer[s] service requests to one of the plurality of servers, wherein each of the plurality of servers responds to service requests from clients of the separate sets of I/O services.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-21 remain in the application. Claim 3 has been amended. No claims have been canceled. No new claims have been added.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admission of prior art (AAPA), in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,491,813 issued to Bondy et. al. (Bondy), further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,572,675 issued to Bergler (Bergler).

The AAPA teaches a circuit in which an application generates a service requests, which is passed to a single application programming interface (API). The API converts this service request to a general function, and passes it to the operating system. The operating system passes the converted function to an appropriate resource. The single API interfaces with a number of different types of I/O services. Thus, the general function often needs to be reconverted for the specific I/O service requested.